ESPORTANT FROM PORT ROYAL

Arrival of the Transport Cahawba.

Startling Order from General Hunter.

Abolition of Slavery in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida,

The United States steam transport Cahawba, Captain Baker, arrived at this port yesterday morning, in eighty hours from Port Royal. She has 6,982 bags of ungineed

transpired since our last advices.

The steamer Atlantic arrived at Port Royal on the

morning of the 9th inst., and would sail for New York on or about the 14th. The Cahawba brings twenty cabin and fifty-seven steerage passengers. The following is a list of the passengers brought by

the Cabawba:—

Colonel Noble, Colonel Woodman, Captain Hemmingway, Captain C. Perry, Captain Banen, Captain C. Smith, Captain A. Blaney, Captain Moore, Dr. Muliford, Lieutenant J. H. MoDonald, F. W. Whoeler, Mrs. Beard, Mr. Longfellow, of the United States Coast Survey; N. Bellows, Mr. Dulleraro, Wm. Wright, Wm. D. Urann, Acting Master United States Navy; Dr. Houghton and servant, United States Army; S. J. Smith, E. Aborn, E. Kilton, Captain Ackerman, Wm. H. Degraw, Mr. Kates, Dr. Bundy, United States Army.

Our Hilton Head Correspondence.

Huxon Head, S. C., May 10, 1882.
The Failure in Enlisting Negroes—Important Order—Gen.
Hunter Declares Martial Law Over South Carolina, Georgia and Florida—All Slaves in South Carolina Georgia and Florida Declared Free—Mr. Missionar

There is a terrible dearth of news in the northern dis going on in the military line, except an occasional co truce, looking towards an exchange of prisoners. A flag went up the Savanuah river yesterday on the Mattano Captain Kearney, in charge of Captain Ely, Adjutan ral of this district; but as the party has not yet re turned I am unable to give the results of the movemen Chhawba this afternoon, I will endeavor to com tions. Nothing else is transpiring of interest, and I cannot discover any fact to lead me to suppose or hope that anything will occur for some time. General Hunter enty-five thousand men in front of him, sixty

point in forty-eight hours.

The enlisting of negroes as soldiers, with the pay and great success. A company of contrabands was formed here three or four weeks since, and numbered at one nated, nearly one hundred and fifty men. Since then the strabands' courage, like that of Bob Acres', has cozed turn out a corporal's guard. The contrabands have no beart for the business, when they reflect upon or perforated by bullets, with the additional risk of shuffling off this mortal coil through the simple fears, which increase in the same ratio that they reflect to take up arms to a deep-scated disinclination to place themselves in positions of danger. They are fond of the * pomp and circumstance of war," but prefer to enjoy it mder more favorable auspices than those likely to be

will ever be placed in their hands. But we shall see I send you some general orders, issued by the Commanding General of the department, and also by the der No. 8, dated Headquarters, Department of the South, &c.s, April 25, 1862, while applying generally to an indi vidual case of alleged crucity to negroes, preciaims, inci-dentally, martial law in the States of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. This has no particular significance in itself; but, as a basis for General Orders No. 11, it assumes great importance, and will doubtles receive great and unive sal attention. General Orders No. 11 declares all states in the States of South Cardins. Georgia and Farida forever free. The proposition upo which General Hunter draws the conclusion and bases the declaration that all slaves in the three States name above are free is "that slavery and martial law in discussion must be had on that proposition. As it is not legitimately in my province to discuss the bearings the General's assumption that slavery and martial lav

ment; but it is exceedingly questionable whether they

Bo. W. Sairn, Acting Assistant Adjurant General

Bo. W. Sarth, Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

GENERAL ORDERS—NO. 10.

HEADQUARTERS, DYFARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, I HILTON HEAD, S. C., May 9, 182.

The following communicat on from the Severchry of War is published to the troops in this department —

WAR DEFARMSENT, I WARD DEFARMSENT, WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., April 30, 1802.

GENERAL—Tour desputes relating to the capture of Port Pulaski were duly received, and the congratulations and the Resol the government are rendered to you and the forces under your command for that brilliant achievement. Yours truly.

SDWIM STANTON, Secretary of War.

Major tien, Hunter, Commanding Department of the South, My order off Secretary of War.

My order off Department of the South, My order off D. HUNTER, Commanding Department of the South, My order off D. HUNTER, Commanding Department of the South, My order off D. HUNTER, Commanding Department of the South, My order off Comm

The three Sintes of Georgia, Florida and South Carolin comprising the Military Department of the South baving d liberalely deshared themselves no longer under the prote-tion of the United States of America, and having taken u a free country, are altogether incompatible. The persons in three three States, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina, hereto, for held as slaves, are therefore declared forever free.

DAVID HUNTER.

Major General Commanding.

Re. W. Sairn. Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

The civil department affairs are as doll and stupid as aver, occasionally relieved, of course, by some enhancement excellented, which affords a momentary pleasure and a rich fund of talk for a long time afterwards. An affair of that character came off a few days since, in which our old friend livree, of agricultural, missionary and autocratical fame, figure dus party of the second part, and a gentleman who has carned a fine reputation as a faithful servant of the T. acury Department, "can the earliest days of occupation of this State by our forced, was the party of the first part. The affair was of brief duration, but terminated in the inglorious retreat of the party of the second part, who fell back with a hance count nance to his aides, who carried and protectes, him from the advance of his opponent in an opposite Arcetion, but Mr. Pierce re-

ceived at the hands of a gentleman a sound and richly merited flogging. From what I can gather the cause of offence arose in Mr. Pierce's appropriating a saddle and bridle, the private property of one of the treasury agents, and retusing, aithough politely and frequently requested to return the same, to give any account of their whereabouts, and refusing in so aggravating and insolant a manner as to make it utterly impossible for any gentleman to bear quietly with him. However, his imperious manner and insolent language were suffered to pass in silence. The other day he was requested in a gentlemanly manner to designate the place where the articles above mentioned could be found and he sgain positively refused to give any satisfactory answer, with that habituat air of superciliousness and impudence which characterizes his demeanor towards those who do not travel with the Gideonites. This was quickly resented by a blow, and Mr. Pierce was and impudence which characterizes his demeanor towards those who do not travel with the Gideonites. This was quickly resented by a blow, and Mr. Pierce was sent down each time. He then began to cry, "Help.," "Police," "Watch," "Provent," "Friends," and made other appeals for assistance; but he had been sufficiently punished, and his chastiser retired, after apologizing to the bystandors for striking him. Mr. Pierce vas retired with a battered countenance and a new idea or two of things in general. He demanded the instant arrest of his opponent; but, both being civilians, he was assured that he could also be arrested on a counter charge, and he concluded not to press the claim.

How the affair will terminate is not known as yet; but I will keep you fully posted on the affair as it developes itself. It still remains a frutful topic of faik and discussion in camp; and the almost universal opinion seems to be that Pierce was served about right. You can judge for yourself.

sion in camp; and the almost universal opinion seems to be that Pierce was served about right. You can judge for yourself.

In a recent letter I stated that Captain Charles E. Fuller, Assistant Quartermaster at Beaufort, was giving full soldier's rations to the contrabands, and drew a comparison between that system and the one pursued by Captain Lilley, Commissary, which might seem unfavorable to the former. I have since learned that I was in error in making that statement, and that Captain Fuller carried out the same system inaugurated by Captain Lilley. I very cheerfully make the above correction, which absence from the department has prevented me from making before. If any injury was done by my letter to this officer, who has faithfully performed his duty, it was certainly unintentional on my part, and must be considered in that light.

Several court martial trials have taken place here lately, the most important of which was that of private George A. Tarbox, Company K, Third regiment New Hampshire Volunteers, charged with "electing upon his post."

Hampshire Volunteers, charged with post."

He was sentenced "to be shot at such time and place as the Commanding General may direct." Brigadier General Benham approved the inding and sentence is this case, but "referred the sentence of the court for a remission to the consideration of the General command the department."

rdination in Colonel Serrell's Regiment of Engi neers—The Mutinous Soldiers Sent to Key West—Condition of the Patients in the Hospital—Will the Contra-

bands Make Good Fighting Men? &c.
Forty-four men of Colonel Servell's Engineer regiment for mutinous behavior. For several weeks past—owing tion has manifested itself among the men, and culminated sympathizing comrades called a "strike," but which was nothing more nor less than open mutiny. As your been doing duty for nearly seven months, without having received during that time a single cent of pay. This has been, I think, partially the fault of the men themselves, who, having been mustered into the fused to prejudice their claims as such by receiving the pay of infantry, which the department has at all times been willing to accord to them. This state of things has resulted in deep and almost universal distress among the

Having been so long without funds, a number of men bring the government to terms by laying down their arms, and refusing to serve until they were recognized and paid as engineers. In vain Col. Sorrell appealed to them to reconsider their determination and return to them to reconsider their determination and return to duty; in vain the commanding general portrayed the disastrous consequences, both to themselves and to their families, which their insubordination involved; they adhered to their position with a reckless disregard of results; and accordingly General Hunter made the above obsposition of them. They salled yenterdny atternoon in the schooner James M. Holmes, under charge of Liont. Thes, W. Fry, of the Third Rhode Island Volunteers, and a provest guard. The following are the uniness of the mutineers, all of whom are from New York city—
Company A.—Privates Francis Green, Thomas Quinn, John Robertson, John Wilson.
Company D.—Sergeant Gotleib Scheerer; Corporals Franz Kirschenheuter, Charles Frank, John Hennen, Frederic Sim'n; privates Franz Kaiser, Frederic Warner, Anton Weebker, William Wehmeyer, Invid Schuck, Bavid Bichadolf, Charles Schneider, Emil Eckert, John Philip Schafor, Albert Knack, Franz Hermann, Ladwig Reich, Louis Loffler, Conrad Pilger, Peter Weimer, William Schmidt, Andrew Knawer, Centre Hiller, John Godring, David Schudt. arms, and refusing to serve until they were recognized

Major (not Colonel) Coffey, who was released by Colonel Morgan on parole, has arrived here, en route to Washing ton, to endeavor to effect the exchange of himself fo Lieutenant Colonel Wood, of Morgan's band.

METROPOLITAN HOTEL, May 15, 1862.

An article in this morning's paper is calculated to con-

vey false hopes to the families of seme of those who fell n the fight at Williamsburg. From all the testimony I could gather from my wound ed officers and soldiers, the following is a correct list of the killed and wounded officers of my regiment:—

Second Lieut. Haylor, Company E.

Colonel Wm. Dwight.
Lieut. Col. J. Egbert Farnum.
Capt. Ben. Price, Company D.

First Lieut. Denrison. Company E.

Capt. Denny Mahan. Company E.

First Lieut. Hoxey, Company B.

First Lieut. Hoxey, Company A.

Second Lieut. Eddingston, Company F.

First Lieut. Louige, Company F.

First Lieut. Robinson, Company F.

First Lieut. Robinson, Company R.

Second Lieut. Stevene, Company R.

Second Lieut. Stevene, Company R.

The Coreging liet, I. un assured

The foregoing list, I am assured from every reliable

NEWS FROM GEN. HALLECK'S ARMY.

Attempted Desertion of the Rebels by Regiments-Demoralization of the Ene-my's Forces-The Rebel General Bragg

CHICAGO, May 15, 1862. A special despatch from Cairo, giving intelligence brought by the City of Memphis, from Pittsburg Landing,

Kentucky and Tennessee attempted to descrit their cause and come over *en masse* to the federal army. The enemy held them in check, and a mutiny ensued. A stron and in a short time returned with about sixty prisoners mostly from the ranks of the deserting regiments. They They confirm the previous statements that the troops from the border States are anxious to return to their allegiance. The story of the enemy's lack of provisions is denied by the deserters, who say that there is plenty

CAIRO, May 15, 1862. When General Mitchel joined his forces with those of Seneral Pope, he brought with him two thousand five aundred prisoners. They will be sent to Cairo as soon as

In the battle of Parmington one rebel General, supposed to be Bragg, was killed.

Fifteen deserters came into our lines from Corinth. They report that several more regiments mutinied Tennessee regiments.

THE SIEGE OF FORT WRIGHT.

Our Mortar Boats Shelled by the Rebels-

CHICAGO, May 15, 1862. Last evening the rebels commenced shelling this place from behind Craighead Point, which until yesterday was occupied by our mortar boats. They kept up a fire during the night, the shells exploding wide of the mark. They ire provided with mortars equal in weight of metal to

those used by the Union fleet.

Captain Winslow was despatched by the mail steamer resterday to St. Louis, for the purpose of bringing our rams to this place as soon as possible.

Hickman, has joined the fleet. Preparations have been completed on all the gunboats ow here, which, in the opinion of the ablest engineers will most effectually render useless any rebel contrivance

NEWS FROM NEW MEXICO.

The Rebel Texan Rangers Dispersed.

KANSAS CITY, May 10, 1862. The Santa Fe mail has arrived, with Fort Craig date to the 3d. General Canby was at that place with his

had abandoned thirty ave of their wagons and buried some of their guns. When they crossed the Ruerco river, near its junction with the Rio Grande, they sepaated into small parties and fied to the mou doning their sick and all those who could not travel with

It is thought that the enemy will not make another tand in the Territory, but would endeavor to get home. One hundred wagon loads of provisions, which had been collected at Santa Fe, were sent to Fort Union on the 23d ult.

Successful Expedition Against the Guerillas in Missouri. CAIRO, May 15, 1861.

An expedition, consisting of six squadrons of the First Wisconsin cavalry , from Cape Girardeau, went to Bloom field on Saturday, and early on Sunday morning fell upon the rebei Colonel Phelan's camp, scattering them m every direction, with one killed and eleven captured. A large number of horses and a quantity of campoquipage and ammunition were also taken.

A rebel force, numbering five or six hundred, infest Chair and Poplar Bluffs, impressing all the men. The country is being swept of horses, cattle and supplies, which are sent South. The country is represented to be ma state of great terror.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 5, 1852. property owners in that State are averse to the destroy tion of their goods. None has been destroyed as yet

Extraordinary Confession of a Charleston Rebei Organ.

[From the hardston Courier, May 9.]

THE DUTY OF IGPINYENCE AND RESIGNATION.

We have failen upon toubloos times. While some hearts are bleeding under bereavements caused by the present strife, others are aching with anxiety for the objects of their love who are grided for the battle, and prepared to go forth to the field of blood. First obliged to part with luxuries, comforts were afterwards removed from beyond our reach, and now we must be content with homely necessaries. Homesteads have been abandoned and the immates obliged to take refuge from the spoiler under the roots of strangers. Those who counted their possessions by thousands have been reduced to want, and many contemplate with disquieted minds the probability of being deprived of those means whereby they maintain wife and child.

We are now experiencing some of the evils of war, and we feel that they are the most terrible of the rods which God strateches out over a people in punishment of their wickedness. We must not overlook the vital fact that our strangerssions, and obstimacy, and ingratude have caused the Judge of all the earth to inflict upon us this, the heaviest of all calamities. It is true that all are not guilty to the same extent, many are free from the more heinous inquities, and in comparison with atroncos offenders appear righteous and hely. But sone of us are unaccused by concinnee, and the simulation of the more heinous inquities, and in comparison with atroncos offenders appear righteous and hely. But sone of as are unaccused by concinnee, and the simulation of the heaving and the continuation of the cont

NEWS FROM THE PENINSULA.

The Advance Guard of the Union Army Within Sight of the Enemy.

The Main Body of Our Forces Rapidly Concentrating.

The Rebels in Large Force Between Richmond and the Chickahominy, &c.,

CUMBERLAND, Va., May 14, 1862. General McClellan's headquarters were established here yesterday, and are now pleasantly located on the

here yesterday, and are possible to banks of the Panunkey river.

The main body of the army is rapidly concentrating at the point designated by the Commanding General.

The quartermaster and commissary stores are in

an, still remains at White House, within sight of the

tates that between that city and the Chickahominy are encamped in large force, where they expect to awai full back they drive before them most of the cattle, sheep and hogs, leaving only such things as they cannot re-

Two explosions were heard yest orday in the direction of the Chickahominy, which were supposed to have been caused by the blowing up of the railroad bridge.

Our New Kent Court House Correspond-

NEW KENT COURT HOUSE, Va., May 11, 1862. The Start from Williamsburg—Poor Virginia—Our Sol-viers and the Inhabitants—General McClellan and the Troops-Description of New Kent County and Court House-White House, &c., &c.

On Friday morning our army left Williamsburg and took up its line of march for Richmond. The day was presented anything but cheerful appearances as they saw them marching toward "Dixie," and many of them doubtless offered up an inward prayer that they might been fortunate enough to secure accommodations at the had enjoyed the luxury of sleeping in a nice clean bed for the first time since leaving Washington. Mr. Bowden is one of the few influential men in Virginia who have remained loyal throughout the whole of these troubles He was for several years a member of the Legislature and has fought against secession from its commence ment. He not only voted against it at the immines peril of his life, but gave up a practice of law worth

recognize their paper currency. he slept with his doors and windows barricaded and with loaded guns and pistols by his side, which he and assaults. About three months since he was obliged to as remained there till the entrance of our army his sentiments without fear of being molested. His ac-count of the rise and progress of the rebellion in Virgi-nia is very interesting, and the atrocities committed by heard of so many similar instances. He deserves native of Virginia, a large slave and land owner, and has

his fidelity to the old Union. General Joh on made the house where he was concealed his head

Mr. Bowden owns a beautiful residence in Williams-burg, and a farm of nineteen hundred acres nine miles tiful daughter, all staunch Union people. Many of bis ed and carried as prisoners to the South for expressing Union sentiments, there to be confined Union army shall have put an end to this hat many who were at first strongly in favor of th Union have been drawn into the rebellion from having

this payer in exchange.

If the past year could be blotted out and Virginia placed back where she was before the war, and the vote union, the result would be very different. The country through which we have passed in coming from Williams' burg to New Kent Court House surpasses anything we have yet seen in old Virginia. The quality of the land is

of our own men; but I believe they are all how doing well.

It was undoubtedly one of the most desperately fought battles that has occurred during the war, and the loss on both sides is much heavier than was at first suppress.

The hardest lighting and greatest loss took place upon the left of our line, in the woods; but the battle was undoubtedly decided by the magnificent charge made by the troops under General Hancock, as the speech made by General McClellan to the troops engaged there will have.

by Osneral Siccional to the Court Show.

The advance of our army now occupies New Kent Court Bruge, the county seat of New Kent.

New Kent was formed in 1654 from York. The boundaries were then defined as follows:—

"It is ordered that the upper part of York county shall be a distinct county, called New Kent, from the west side of Semesto creek to the heads of Panusakey and Mattagen, invers, and down to the west side of Foropotanko

creek."

The Fanonikey rous on its northern and the Chicka-nominy on his southern boundary. To each of these the respective portions of the county incline. Now Kent is about twenty-six miss long and more broad. Population

before the war—Whites, 2,472; slaves, 3,385; free colored, 373. Total, 6,230.

New Kent Court House, or Bassettville, is thirty miles east of Richmond and three miles south of the Pamunkey, it contains several stores, a tavern and about a dozen dwellings.

Beautifully situated on the banks of the Pamunkey is the mansion known as the "White House." It stands on the site of the one in which Washington was married. It was supposed the enemy intended to make a stand in this vicinity; but they left as we approached, and will probably retreat somewhere in the vicinity of Richmond, where they are expected to give us battle.

It being Sunday, our army doss not march to-day, but lies still in order to give the men rest and to get forward a good supply of provisions for future use. Our supplies can now be brought by the way of West Point, which is only ten miles distant.

We came across many curious relies upon our march from Williamsburg here, some of which may be interesting.

Here lyeth the body of Daniel Parke Custis, of New Kent county, who departed this life on the 19th of February, 1754, aged 2 years and 3 months.

Under this also lies interred the body of Frances Parke Custis, daughter of Daniel Parke Custis, Esq., and Martha, his wife, born April 12th, 1763. Died April 1st, 1767.

Here lies the body of Mrs. Frances Parke Custls, daughter of Daniel Parke Custis, Esq., who departed this life March 14th, I. J., in the 29th year of her age.

By the side of these two graves was this richly and elaborately carved shaft, the monolith gone, while near them were the base and urn, also richly carved, lying in the midst of rank and tangled weeds. Within the old brick wall enclosure (about thirty feet square) were large trees, evidently of modern growth. The wall itself was covered with wild lay.

We also passed the burial ground of the Talliafero family, whose remains he buried in what was formerly the old churchyard, but recently desecrated by being made the camping ground of robel soldiers. Some of the inscriptions date back as far as 1748.

I can hardly be made to believe, as I look out upon this vast army, quietly encamped, that we are in an enemy's country, and soon probably to be engaged in deadly strife with many of these residing in this very neighborhood. As I write a regiment is engaged holding religious services in frant of the house; and, as the band plays glorious "Old Hundred," many of them are doubtless carried back in imagination to their far distant homes, where they were accustomed to hear it sing by the village choir or by their own firesides. Many of them, I fear, have heard it at home for the last time.

FROM GENERAL VIELE'S DIVISION.

Our Norfolk Correspondence.

Nonrolk, Va., May 14, 1862.

Particulars of the Brilliant Dash upon Suffolk—The Citizens of Norfolk Hoist the Union Flag of their Own Volition—The People of that City Becoming Reconciled—A Union Mass Meeting in Embryo There—Norfolk Ladies Loyal—The Insolence of the Negroes—The Cuisines of the Citizens Under Mili'ary Protection—The People of Suffilk Growing More Sociable—Who Lieutenant Colonel

Dodge is—The Rebel Force at Edenton, &c.
On Monday evening report reached General Viele's conditional viele was pickets were discovered within seven miles of Portsmouth, apparently watching for any movement from this direction. A detachment of cavalry (the First battalion New York Mounted Rifles) under command of Lieutenant Colonel Dodge, of New York city, was immediately despatched to look after the afternoon a despatch was received from Colonel Dodge announcing that he had pushed on his force, without meeting the pickets; to Suffolk, and had taken the place without resistance. Suffolk is about twenty-five miles onel has received the commendations of the Commanding General, although the occupation of the place has now habitants. While the rebel force occupied Norfolk. and Petersburg, and also that with North Ca-Petersburg Railroad and the Seaboard Bailroad pass through the town. Col. Dodge reports that the inhabilast ten days upwards of thirty thousand rebel soldiers

A marked improvement in the temper of the people of Norfolk is apparent this morning. Many stores have been opened, and some of the establishments are resuming operations. The market is better supplied than on Monday and yesterday, and the people generally whom we meet in the streets seem more sociable and cheerful. The American flag has been raised upon the Court House by some of the citizens, of their own relition, and from several private residences, in various parts of breeze. The novelty of the change in city affairs is rapidly dissipating, and the people round them, and appear disposed to make the best of everything. The indisposition to do business has completely played itself out, and a more wholeseme tone has taken its place. The stores, it must be connocks are meagre and prices very uncertain as yet; but ters satisfactorily all round. The bills issued by the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth, the savings institutions and banks and insurance corporations, pass readily and there appears to be less difficulty in the matter of ney from other places and the issues of irresponsible in-dividuals are thrown out of circulation, but the amount is too insignificant to cause very serious inconvenience. Silver change is still a novelty to the people, and is

dividuals are thrown out of circulation, but the amount is too insignificant to cause very serious inconvenience. Silver change is still a novelty to the people, and is grasped with the greatest avidity; io fact, from the manner in which it is seized upon, one would almost be inclined to believe that the inhabitants here have for a long time regarded a five cent piece as something about as large as a cart wheel, and very nearly as heavy. The influx of silver cannot fail ultimately to work considerable depreciation in the paper circulation, if the banks do not come to the rolle of the cilizens, and it is confiderable asserted that these institutions will satisfatorily meet the exigencies of the times at a very early day.

Eiforts are making to get up a meeting at which the Union men of the city can have an opportunity to express their sentiments. It is thought a large assemblage can be gathered as soon as the administration of city affairs will warrant the movement. Some are for pressing the matter immediately, but the more judicious are for waiting a short time, not from any doubt in the ability of the government to maintain its supremedy in this quarter, but because they believe that a greater number of wavering men will become strong as the beneficent policy of the authorities is more fully demonstrated. The idiosyncracy is indulged in by otherwise very sensible men that Norfolk will be retaken by the robeis, and emerge from a night of terror into the light of a glorious deliverance. The Union men are so dazzled by the change that they cannot yet determine whether the intensity of the previous darknoss or brilliancy of the present light blinds them. Confidence is slow of growth, and the love of the Union here has been go oppressed—so nearly crushed out—that it dares hardly raise its head from the dust into which it has been crowded. But the seaven its working netwely and before long there will be a good old fashioned Union meeting held in Norfolk, at which such men as Genoral Milson and othors can be heard fo

him in regard to runawayshe has assured them that he has other and more innertest duties claiming attention. He has his part in the mission, to suppress the rebeilion, to perform, and cannot spare valuable time to bother about insubordinate and unreasonable recosal property. The public exigencies, he probably thinks, is sufficient excuse for his not meddling with such uncertain commodities as migratory contrabands. At least he has acted as if thus impressed, for most certainly he has placed the duty of overcoming the armed host opposed to the government paramount to all other considerations, and while he has assured the applicants for all, in the case of runaways, that he is disposed to give them all the protection in his power so far as their persons are concerned, he is not inclined to allow himself to be drawn into a decision upon the negro question, and he therefore refuses to interfere in that question in any manner. In the meantime many of the darkies, getting hungry, are returning to their wonted avocations. Of course the innately lazy and worthless will remain vagabonds till they become a misance, and the military government will be compelled to punish them.

As I close my letter Major Dodge's command has returned. His appearance is most grateful, since a poinful rumor reached headquarters late last night that he had been cut off. The result of the recomnoissance has been meat valuable in results. The city was surrendered to the Major yesterday by the Mayor, who gave up the keys of the buildings, and the place passed legitimately gle. Major Podge informs me that upon his entrance into the city the inhabitants treated him and his command with marked repugnance, and some of them sever refused to give the soldiers a drink of water. He was assured that the rebels 'would return in about six weeks and give the Yankees hall." The retreating robels gave the people of Suffolk notice that they were 'coming back,' and hence the impudance towards our troops. The benighted people in the 'coonfederacy' seem to be tro or positical Saviokr; and, notwithstanding that he is always running away, and continually upsetting their hopes, they nourish an anticipation that he is coming back sometime to perform a mircele for them. So are deceived the people of Shifolk, and they yielded at first with an indifferent grace to an inevitable necessity. In the course of the day they grow more gracious, and Major Dodge was well received everywhere. The rear guard of the rebels was only ten miles beyond Shifolk, and Major Dodge having but two hundred men with him, was in danger of being cut off if the enemy had had the courage to come back upon him. The reconnoissance having been accomplished, Lieutenant Colonel D. was ordered to return, which he did in fine condition and in most excellent spirits. Major Dodge is a mess efficient officer, and his qualities as a soldier are only equalled by his modesty and courtesy as a gentleman. He is the son of the eminent banker in New York. When the war broke out he was travelling in Europe, and when the intelligence reached him, under the impulse of uncontrollable patriotism, he made his way to London and placed himself under tuition at the Horse Gards for cavalry service. Upon his return to this country he offered his services to the government, and, boing accepted, raised, as a independent command, his battalion of mounted rifles. He has been indefatigable in the organization of his corpus and the men are se well drilled that they are as good shots on horseback agriflemen are upon 1001. They are, in fact, sharpshooters mounted. Colonel Bodge has the "dash and dare" about him which cannot fail to distinguish him wherever he may be placed, and, in addition to his natural characteristics, he seems to be imb ed with something of the spirit which actuates the Commanding General (General Viele), and his movements will be marked by the celerity and audacity so essential to success, tempered by good judgment and consideration for the men who follow him.

The schooner Mary Eliza, Captain Thompson, and schooner F

NEWS FROM GENERAL BANKS' CORPS.

ront, apparently watching our movements and hunting Narrow Passage creek was frustrated last night by Gen. Hatch, Chief of Cavalry, without an engagement.

There is nothing later from General Milroy than pub The skies are clouded, threatening rain. Railroad building is progressing rapidly and arrough minunication will be had this week.

IMPORTANT FROM WESTERN VIRGINIA.

Ravages of the Rebel Guerillas-The Towns of Burning Springs, Palestine and Elizabeth Burned, &c.

WASHINGTON, May 15, 1862. Hon. Jacob B. Blair, of Western Virginia, received this morning the following startling communication from one of his constituents in Western Virginia:—

PARKERSBURG, May 10, 1862. We are all in a great state of excitement here. town of Burning Springs, in West county, was burnt yes-terday afternoon by the Morcassier Rangers, also Pates town is full of fugitives. It is not known who have been killed, though many are missing. Charley Shattuck was shot at twice across the river. The last seen of the Morcassiers by fugitives here they were taking the goods out come of the small military force in that region. The number of Morcassiers is not known, though some fix it at six hundred. Where the devil did they come from? bly burned. Some consider this place in imminent dan-ger. They have but one company of soldiers here. The

WHAT SHE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE PASSAGE OF THE JAMES RIVER.

GUNBOAT GALKNA, May 11, 1862. leaving Hampton Roads. I was glad of it; for such a fine ship as this ought net to be kept idle in such times as these, and the boys were all anxious for a fight. We got under weigh and left the Roads fifteen minetes past seven till we passed Sewall's Point, without one shot being fired He gave orders to Lieutenant Newman to call all hands to quarters, which he did in his usual cool way; for he is.

SEXTY NINTH REGISSET, N. Y. S. M.—Just before the presentation of the magnificent rebel trophy to the Sixtypresentation of the magnificent rebel trophy to the Sixty-ninth regiment, on Tuesday evening, a pleasant little-affair took place is the large drilt room of the regiment. Captain Thomas Clarks, who commanded Company D, Sixty-minth regiment, at Bull run, presented a splendid sword, sach and bet to Lioutenant Michael Maguire as a mark of the respect and esteem of his friends. Liente-ment Magnife is the second in command of Company D, and the compliment paid him by his friends is richly-merited. The sword is the gift of members of his com-mand, many of whom were in attendance at the precen-tation.